

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 07268 261548 Z

51

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

DPW-01 AID-20 OMB-01 SR-02 ORM-03 EB-11 RSR-01 /132 W  
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P R 261126 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0799

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 7268

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR1, APRIL 26, 1973

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON 26 APR 73. REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE

DANANG 453

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT VS

SUBJ: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR I, X PLUS 88, APRIL 26, 1973

### 1. MILITARY ACTIVITIES:

THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS YESTERDAY REMAINED LOW WITH TWO GROUND ATTACKS, 17 ATTACKS BY FIRE ( ABF' S) AND ONE OTHER INCIDENT FOR A TOTAL OF 20. THE 1 ST DIVISION AO WEST OF HUE HAD NINE ABF' S WITH A TOTAL OF 292 ROUNDS OF MORTAR FIRE, A RELATIVELY LIGHT DAY FOR THIS AREA. TOTAL RESULTS REPORTED FOR THE PERIOD WERE AS FOLLOWS: FRIENDLY, TWO KIA AND 25 WIA; ASEM, 15 KIA AND TWO RALLIERS. FRIENDLY ARTILLERY EXPENDITURE DROPPED SLIGHTLY TO 2,675 ROUNDS TOTAL; 1,675 NORTH OF THE VI VAN PASS AND 1,000 SOUTH. 1 CPS

G-2 BRIEFED THAT AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE YESTERDAY REVEALED HEAVY VEHICULAR TRAFFIC IN WESTERN QUEVG TIN PROVINCE IN THE VICINITY  
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PAGE 02 SAIGON 07268 261548 Z

OF KHAM DUC AIRFIELD AND NEWLY CONSTRUCTED PORTIONS OF QL-14. AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY EXAMINED YESTERDAY ALSO INDICATED INCREASED CIVILIAN SETTLEMENT AND NEWLY BUILT HOUSES IN THE AREA SOUTH OF BA TO IN SOUTHERN QUANG NGAI PROVINCE.

2. IVS:

THE PRG AUTHORIZED AN ICCS TEAM WITH FOUR HELICOPTERS TO TRAVEL TO THE DOWNED HELICOPTER 115 IN QUANG TRI. AIR SERVICES PERSONNEL EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO REPAIR IT AND FLY IT OUT. A VOLPAR AIRCRAFT IS READY TO FLY AS ORBITTING AIRCRAFT WHILE THE REPAIR CREW WORKS. PART OF THE MISSION LANDED IN QUANG TRI CITY AT ABOUT 0900 HOURS THIS MORNING APRIL 26 AND REPORT THEY WILL BE ON THE GROUND THERE FIVE HOURS AT LEAST WHILE FINAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING WORKED OUT.

3. GVN ACTIVITIES: RESETTLEMENT OF POPULATION

AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI REPORTS THAT THE GVN AUTHORITIES ARE PLANNING SEVERAL POPULATION RESETTLEMENT PROJECTS. SOME 1,200 PERSONS WILL RETURN TO THEIR HOMES ON THE BATANGAN PENINSULA OF EASTERN BINH SON DISTRICT FROM A RECEPTION CENTER IN SON TINH DISTRICT AT THE END OF APRIL. SOME 8,000 PERSONS ARE TO RETURN HOME IN NORTHERN AND WESTERN NGHIA HANH DISTRICT. SOME 10,000 PERSONS ARE TO RETURN FROM THE LA HA RECEPTION CENTER NOT TO THEIR HOMES, BUT TO PREPARED RECEPTION CENTERS IN MO DUC DISTRICT, CLOSE ENOUGH TO THEIR LANDS TO ALLOW MANY TO FARM THERE DURING THE DAY.

B. COLONEL NGO VAN LOI, PROVINCE CHIEF OF QUANG NGAI, INFORMED AREA DIRECTOR THAT ON APRIL 2# HE VISITED FORMER QUANG NGAI RESIDENTS WHO WERE RESETTLED IN LONG KHANH AND BINH TUY PROVINCES, MR 3. HE IS CONSIDERING RECOMMENDING FURTHER RESETTLEMENT IN THE SOUTH FOR THOSE WHO CAN BE PERSUADED TO GO AND WHOSE RETURN TO

THEIR HOME AREAS IN QUANG NGAI IS DOUBTFUL.

4. COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES:

A. QUANG NGAI PROVINCE AUTHORITIES TOLFUAREA DIRBTTGV QUANG NGAI THAT TEAMS OF LABORERS ESCORTED BY VC/ NVA PATROLS ARE ATTEMPTING TO PENETRATE GVN AREAS, PICK UP RICE AND AMMURPTION FROM BURIED  
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PAGE 03 SAIGON 07268 261548 Z

BUNKERS INNJHE SANDY AREA NEAR THE MO DUC DIYARICT COASTLINE IN QUANG NGAI, AND RETURN TO THE WESTERN MOUNTAINS. THESE SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN LANDED AT NIGHT BY SAMPAN BETWEEN THE SONG VE RIVEER MOUTH AND DUI PHO DISTRICT BORDER. IN AN ATTEMPT TO CUT OFF WHAT APPEARS TO BE A MAJOR ENEMY RESUPPLY ROUTE, ELEMENTS OF THE 5 TH ARVN REGIMENT ARE SETTING AMBUSHES, INCLUDING ARMOR.

B. JUDGING FROM THE AMOUNTS OF RICE FOUND IN CACHES AND CONFISCATED FROM ILLEGAL TRADERS, THE CURRENT VC TAESCOLLECTION CAMPAIGN IN MO DUC DISTRICT, QUANG NLWI, IS LARGER THAN IN ANY RECENT YEAR. AS REPORTED TO AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI, TAX RATES ARE ABOUT 50 PERCENT OF THE HARVEST AND YOUNG TEENAGERS ARE BEING USED AS TAX COLLECTORS.

5. ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES:

IN AN EFFORT TO DIVERT THE CINNAMON TRAFFIC TO QUANG NGAI BACK INTO LEGITIMATE GVN CHANNELS ( REF DANANG 362,400,442), THE PROVINCE CHIEF HAS AUTHORIZED THE EASING OF TRADING RESTRICTIONS ON THE MONTAGNARD CINNAMON DEALERS, INCLUDING ALLOWING THEM TO TRADE FOR AND TRANSPORT UP TO TEN DAYS' FOOD SUPPLY PER FAMILY BACK INTO THE MOUNTAINS. CIVILIAN TRUCKS IN A MILITARY CONVOY RETURNED FROM TRA BONG DISTRICT ON APRIL 24 WITH ONE TON OF CINNAMON, THE LARGEST RECENT SINGLE SHIPMENT BROUGHT BACK TO GVN AREAS.  
BROWN UNQUOTE  
BUNKER

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